

ETON URBAN DISTRICT.

COPY OF THE

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF ETON,

For the Year 1910.

A. J. SOUTHEY, Medical Officer of Health.

ETON COLLEGE:
SPOTTISWOODE & CO., LIMITED

1911



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b2919717x>

ETON URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1910.

Colnbrook,

February 28, 1911.

To the Chairman and Members of the ETON URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

In submitting to you this my 37th Annual Report relating to the year 1910, I am again glad to be able to state that the health of the district, judged by its mortality statistics, has been fully maintained, for the death-rate from all causes last year—4·5 of the population—shows a decline of ·3 below the low rate of the previous year, and ·9 per 1000 lower than that in any of the preceding 35 years, 1874–1908. It is noteworthy in this respect that, of the 15 deaths recorded, no less than one-third, or 33·3 per cent, were of persons who had attained their 60th year, 2 being upwards of 90. With regard to this low rate of mortality, it should be borne in mind that about one-third of the

population upon which this calculation is based is composed of boys in College at the healthy ages of from about 12 to 18 years, who live under the most favourable conditions. Even excluding the boys, the rate, 6·8, is the lowest, under similar conditions, that has been recorded.

The zymotic rate, which had been nil in the three preceding years, rose last year to 1·2 per 1000 owing to two deaths resulting from Measles and two from Whooping Cough, for which latter disease the schools were closed from June 1st to 25th, and for the former from April 2nd to May 31st.

Area and Population.—With an area of 254 acres, the Sanitary district, according to the last census returns, contained a population—including boys in College—of 3292, upon which number the rates in this report are calculated.

Births.—Only 35 births were registered in the district during the year, 19 being of males and 16 of females, jointly equal to a rate of 10 per 1000 of the population; and 13·3 per 1000 of it excluding the boys in College. The birth-rate last year in the Eton Rural District was 20·5 per 1000; that in the whole of England and Wales 24·8; and in the outer ring of suburban districts around London 24·6.

Deaths.—During the year only 15 deaths were recorded in the district, including 10 of males and 5 of females, representing the very low rate of only 4·5 per 1000, and 6·8 per 1000 exclusive of boys in College. The death-rate in the Eton Rural District last year was 8·8 per 1000; the general rate in the whole of England and Wales 13·4; and in the outer ring of suburban districts around London 10·5.

Mortality at different ages.—Of the 15 deaths referred to, 5 were of children under 5 years of age, 2 of children and adults from 5 to 25, 3 of persons from 50 to 60, 1 from 60 to 70, 1 from 70 to 80, 1 from 80 to 90, and 2 above 90.

Infant Mortality.—Of the 5 deaths under 5 years of age, 3 were of infants under 1 year, representing a rate of 8 per cent of the registered births, against 3·4 per cent in the preceding year. For purposes of comparison it may be stated that the rate of infant mortality measured in this manner last year in the Eton Rural District was 7·1; and in the outer ring of suburban districts around London 8·2.

Causes of Death.—The 15 deaths include 4 from the principal Zymotic diseases, 3 from Old Age, 2 each from Pneumonia and Bronchitis, and 1 each from Heart Disease, Diabetes, Appendicitis and Diseased Kidneys.

Zymotic Diseases.—The 4 fatal cases from these diseases occurred in the following order:

Date.	Disease.	Age.	Sex.
May 8	Measles	20 months	Male
„ 13	„	8 „	„
„ 26	Whooping Cough..	2 „	„
„ 26	„ „ .: 14 days		„

It will be seen that 3 of the 4 deaths above noted were of infants under 1 year, and that all of them occurred in May, when both diseases (Measles and Whooping Cough) were prevalent.

Notifiable Diseases.—Only 3 cases were notified during the year. They occurred in the following order:

Order of Notification.	Disease.	Age.	Sex.	Action taken.
January 31....	Scarlet Fever..	8 years	Male	Removed to Isolation Hospital
April 15	„ „ ..	16 „	„	„ „ „
December 21..	Diphtheria ..	—	„	Treated at home

On removal or convalescence of the patient, the premises, bedding, etc. were disinfected.

Housing Conditions, Town Planning Act.—The housing of the population may be regarded as satisfactory, as for many years great attention has been paid by your Authority to this subject, so that now all the houses are provided with separate w.c.'s connected with the sewers, and flushed from the water mains—all cesspools and earth closets having been done away with many years ago.

The town throughout is well paved, lighted and sewered, and with few exceptions the dwellings have ample air space at their rear. For all practical purposes it may, therefore, be said that a considerable portion of the powers of the Housing and Town Planning Act have already been exercised by you. Under such circumstances no special inspection of the houses has taken place since the Act came into force. As time advances, however, another special inspection will be made as heretofore, and then, should the owners neglect to comply with your demands, which as yet they never have done, and which I am sure you do not anticipate, you will doubtless put into force the additional power conferred by the Act.

Main Drainage.—This continues to act most satisfactorily.

Nuisances.—As in the preceding five years, not a single case of nuisance came under my notice, and the health condition of the district continues to be highly satisfactory.

Isolation Hospital.—Two cases of scarlet fever admitted.

Milkshops, Dairies and Cowsheds.—I am informed by your Inspector that there are in the district 2 Dairies, 1 Cowshed and 3 Milkshops, all registered. Also that they were inspected by him at least twice a week during the year, when they were found in a cleanly and satisfactory condition.

Below are the details concerning the dates of registration, when last inspected, and by whom :

When registered.	Names.	Locality.	Dairies.	Cow-sheds.	Milk-shops.	When last inspected.	By whom inspected.
May 7, 1888	Webb & Son ...	82 High St.	1	1	1	Dec. 29, '10	Your Inspector
"	Mr. Wilcox ...	86	"	—	1	"	"
," 11, 1901	Mr. Suckling ...	108	"	1	1	"	"
			Totals.....	2	1	3	

Factories and Workshops Order, 1855.—There are 30 premises coming under this heading in the district, all of which have been frequently visited by your Inspector and found in good sanitary condition. They are shown, with number of employés engaged daily, as under :

Workshops, etc.	No.	No. of Employés.
Laundries	8	108
Tailors and Outfitters	7	71
Shoemakers.. ..	4	23
Bakeries	6	14
Printers and Bookbinders	5	30
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	30	248
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Sanitary work.—Your Inspector has furnished me with the following summary of sanitary work done by him during the year :

Defects found in drains .. ..	.. ..	2
Drains cleansed and repaired .. ..	.. ..	2
W.C.'s repaired.. ..	.. ..	2
No. of Slaughter-houses on register .. ..	.. ..	1
,, Inspections made .. ..	.. ..	41
,, Slaughter-houses cleansed and whitened .. ..	.. ..	1
,, Bake-houses on register .. ..	.. ..	6
,, Inspections made .. ..	.. ..	50
,, Bake-houses cleansed and whitened .. ..	.. ..	6
,, Purveyors of Milk on register .. ..	.. ..	3
,, Cowkeepers .. ..	.. ..	1
,, Visits made .. ..	.. ..	104
,, Workshops .. ..	.. ..	15
,, Inspections made .. ..	.. ..	90
,, Defects found .. ..	.. ..	2
,, Notices served <i>re</i> cleansing, etc. .. ..	.. ..	2
,, Visits to infected houses .. ..	.. ..	3
,, Houses disinfected .. ..	.. ..	3

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. SOUTHEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

PRINTED BY
SPOTTISWOODE AND CO. LTD., ETON
COLCHESTER AND LONDON